

Guidelines for OVHA Coverage

Item: Ambulatory Traction Devices

Definition: A device which applies a traction force to cause separation of two body parts to relieve compression, or to realign two body parts, while the wearer is ambulatory.

Guidelines: There is inadequate current, peer reviewed medical literature to support the use of ambulatory traction devices at this time. If such literature becomes available, this type of device may be appropriate for the beneficiary who:

- Has a malalignment of two body parts, or a compression between two body parts, that requires a traction force for correction AND
- Depends upon ambulation as the primary form of mobility AND
- When the ambulatory traction device is the least expensive, appropriate, medically necessary device to accomplish this purpose AND
- Where the device has been prescribed by a physician active in the Vermont Medicaid program.

Applicable Codes:

E0830 Ambulatory traction device, all types, each. Not a covered service at this time due to lack of medical research literature.

Cautions: There is very little medical literature to support the use of ambulatory traction at this time.

Examples of Diagnosis: Not applicable at this time.

Required Documentation: Not applicable at this time.

References:

Blair WF et al. Ambulatory dynamic patellar traction for patellar reconstruction. Clin Orthop. 1982 Sep, (169):145-7.

Coutois B et al. Ambulatory treatment of congenital dislocation using a harness to maintain the hip in hyperflexion. Rev Chir Orthop Reparatrice Appar Mot. 1980 Mar;66(2):75-82.

Airtrac Device. www.airtrac.com.

Spine-a-trac device. www.spine-a-trac.com.

Clinical Information. www.meditrac.com.

Signature of OVHA Director: _____

Signature of OVHA Medical Director: _____

Date:

Revision 1:

Revision 2:

Revision 3: